

Scowcroft
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RNR 95
ZCZC NYB601
UU LJP CAW LFD

1218:URGENT MIDEAST-APPEAL':

NEW YORK, OCT. 6, REUTER--SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAS APPEALED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF ISRAEL AND EGYPT FOR A HALT TO THE FIGHTING WHICH BROKE OUT TODAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND A RESTORATION OF THE CEASEFIRE IN EFFECT SINCE AUGUST 1970, A U.S. SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

KISSINGER WAS ALSO TRYING TO REACH THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WITH A SIMILAR APPEAL AND HAS SENT MESSAGES TO KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN AND KING FAISAL OF SAUDI ARABIA ASKING THEM TO USE THEIR GOOD OFFICES TO URGE RESTRAINT ON THE WARRING PARTIES.
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RNR 106

ZCZC NYB607

YY LJP LFD CAW

1245:MIDEAST-APPEAL 2 NEW YORK:

THE SPOKESMAN, MR. ROBERT MCCLOSKEY SAID THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE, ACTING AT THE DIRECTION OF PRESIDENT NIXON, HAD ALSO BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL, KURT WALDHEIM, THIS MONTHS SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT, SIR. LAWRENCE MCINTYRE OF AUSTRALIA, AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR ANATOLY DOBRYNIN IN WASHINGTON.

MCCLOSKEY SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER PRESIDENT NIXON HAD USED HIS HOT LINE WIRE TO MOSCOW, WHICH PRESIDENT JOHNSON RESORTED TO DURING THE JUNE 1967 MIDDLE EAST WAR.

MCCLOSKEY TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE FIRST CONFIRMED INFORMATION INCLUDING THE IMMINENT MILITARY ACTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST CAME AT ABOUT 6 A.M. EDT TODAY (1000 GMT). HE DECLINED TO GIVE DETAILS OF THE REPORTS.

HE SAID THE U.S. HAD RECEIVED REPORTS OVER A PERIOD OF WEEKS WHICH SPECULATED ABOUT "CERTAIN MILITARY BUILD-UPS IN ARAB COUNTRIES" BUT NOTHING DEFINITIVE. ALL INDICATIONS WERE THAT THE BUILDUPS WERE DEFENSIVE IN NATURE AND DID NOT HERALD ANY IMMINENT MILITARY ACTION.

HE SAID THAT WAS THE SITUATION UNTIL LAST NIGHT WHEN NEWS REPORTS RECEIVED GAVE THE FIRST INDICATIONS OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT THESE BUILD-UPS WERE "SOMETHING MORE THAN SIMPLY DEFENSIVE."

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RNR 107

ZCZC NYB608

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1250:MIDEAST APPEAL 3 NEW YORK:

THE U.S. SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN EACH OF HIS CONTACTS, THE SECRETARY OF STATE "URGED RESTRAINT TO AVOID THE UNDERMINING AND VIOLATION OF THE CEASEFIRE IN EFFECT SINCE 1970, AND TO AVOID ANY ESCALATION AND CONTINUATION OF THE FIGHTING.

IN HIS MESSAGES TO THE ARAB MONARCHS OF JORDAN AND SAUD ARABIA, HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THEY WOULD "USE THEIR GOOD OFFICE TO URGE RESTRAINT WHERE THEY HAVE THE INFLUENCE TO DO SO."

KISSINGER HAS BEEN MEETING WITH A NUMBER OF MIDDLE EASTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS SINCE THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPENED LAST MONTH. BUT "WE NEVER HAD ANY INDICATION THERE WAS MILITARY ACTION INTENDED BY ANY OF THE GOVERNMENTS," MCCLOSKEY SAID.

HE SAID THE EMPHASIS IN THE TALKS WAS ALWAYS ON PEACEFUL INTENTION AND THE DESIRE, SHARED BY THE UNITED STATES, FOR MORE ACTIVE DIPLOMACY IN THE SEARCH FOR A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.

KISSINGER, WHO CONDUCTED ALL OF HIS CONTRACTS TODAY BY TELEPHONE--INCLUDING SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON AT HIS FLORIDA WHITE HOUSE--WAS RETURNING LATER TODAY TO WASHINGTON.

;;MORE AG/PK/MIT

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RNR107

MIDEAST--AMERICAN 2 KEY

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RNR108

MIDEAST--AMERICAN 2 KEY BISCAYNE (RNR65...SITUATION.)

AT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, ADM. THOMAS MOORER, SUMMONED THE CHIEFS TO AN EMERGENCY MEETING TO REVIEW THE MIDEAST SITUATION.

THERE WAS NO DEFENSE DEPARTMENT COMMENT ON WHETHER THE SIXTH U.S. FLEET IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WAS PUT ON ALERT.

DURING THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR, THE FLEET WAS DIRECTED TO A STANDBY POSITION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

A MAJORITY OF THE AIRCRAFT FLOWN BY ISRAEL ARE PHANTOMS AND SKYHAWKS. LAST WEEK, CONGRESS APPROVED AN EXTENSION OF A BILL PROVIDING LOW-CREDIT ARMS SALES TO ISRAEL.

UNDER THIS BILL, ISRAEL WILL RECEIVE IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS ANOTHER 43 OF THE SUPERSONIC F-4 PHANTOM FIGHTER-BOMBERS AND 36 A-4 SKYHAWKS, A GROUND-SUPPORT FIGHTER.

THE UNITED STATES OVER THE YEARS HAS PROVIDED ISRAEL MORE THAN 100 PHANTOMS AND ABOUT 200 SKYHAWKS.

REUTER RT/BA/MAC 1308

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RNR 109

UU LJP LFD CAW

1257:MIDEAST--APPEAL 4 NEW YORK:

THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL MEET THERE WITH THE WASHINGTON SPECIAL ACTION GROUP--AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL GROUP OF TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO CONVEENE IN TIME OF EMERGENCY.

ASKED WHETHER REPORTS RECENTLY RECEIVED OF A MILITARY BUILD-UP IN MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES INCLUDED A MASSING OF ISRAELI TROOPS, MCCLOSKEY SAID: "TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, NO."

HE ALSO DECLINED TO MAKE A JUDGEMENT ON THE BASIS OF PRESENT INFORMATION ON HOW THE FIGHTING STARTED.

ASKED WHETHER HE THOUGHT ANY EFFORT HAD BEEN MADE TO DECIDE THE U.S. DURING TALKS WHICH KISSINGER HELD RECENTLY WITH MIDDLE EASTERN FOREIGN MINISTERS, MCCLOSKEY AGAIN DECLINED TO MAKE ANY JUDGEMENTS.

HE KNEW OF NO REQUEST AT PRESENT FOR THE CALLING OF A U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING, BUT HE SAID THAT CLEARLY COULD NOT BE RULED OUT.

HE CHARACTERIZED THE FIGHTING NOW UNDERWAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS "SERIOUS", BUT DECLINED TO MAKE ANY COMPARISONS WITH THE 1967 WAR.

::REUTER AG/RWG/IT

SUEX CANAL (UPI) -- WAR BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE ARABS BROKE OUT AT BOTH ENDS OF ISRAEL SATURDAY. AIR AND LAND BATTLES WERE REPORTED ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE ISRAEL-SYRIA BORDER AND ALONG THE GULF OF SUEZ SOUTH OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

BOTH SIDES BLAMED THE OTHER FOR STARTING THE WAR, THE FOURTH MAJOR CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 1948.

"IT'S WAR, IT'S WAR, NOT JUST A LOCAL INCIDENT," AN ISRAELI MILITARY SPOKESMAN SAID IN TEL AVIV. ISRAEL SAID ITS TROOPS WERE "ACTIVE AGAINST THE AGGRESSORS."

RADIO CAIRO SAID: "THE ISRAELI ENEMY AT 1:30 P.M. ATTACKED OUR FORCES IN THE AREA OF ZAARARAN AND SIKHNA IN THE GULF OF SUEZ USING A NUMBER OF FORMATIONS OF WARPLANES WHILE SOME OF ITS GUNBOATS WERE APPROACHING THE WESTERN COAST OF THE GULF."

THE TWO TOWNS ARE ABOUT 25 AND 75 MILES SOUTH OF THE TOWN OF SUEZ ON THE GULF OF SUEZ. EGYPT SAID ITS FORCES CROSSED THE SUEZ CANAL AND DROVE ISRAEL BACK.

BASED ON EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS AND OFFICIAL MILITARY COMMUNIQUE, THE SITUATION ON THE TWO FRONTS FOUR HOURS AFTER FIGHTING BEGAN WAS AS FOLLOWS:

SUEZ:

EGYPTIAN TROOPS BACKED BY AIRPLANES CROSSED THE SUEZ CANAL AT SEVERAL PLACES, ACCORDING TO REPORTS FROM BOTH SIDES. ISRAEL SAID EGYPTIAN AIR AND ARTILLERY ATTACKS PRECEDED THE GROUND FIGHTING. ONE REPORT SAID ISRAELI GUNBOATS ATTACKED EGYPTIAN POSITIONS ON THE GULF OF SUEZ.

EGYPT SAID ITS FLAG WAS RAISED ON THE EAST BANK OF THE SUEZ FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE 1967 WAR, WHEN EGYPTIAN FORCES WERE THROWN OUT OF THE SINAI PENINSULA.

GOLAN HEIGHTS:

SYRIA SAID ITS FORCES CROSSED THE 1967 CEASE-FIRE LINE AND REPORTED INTENSE GROUND FIGHTING, INCLUDING ARMORED VEHICLE BATTLES, AND AERIAL DOGFIGHTS OVER THE AREA. ISRAEL SAID "SYRIAN FORCES OPENED FIRE WITH ARMOR AND INFANTRY ALL ALONG THE GOLAN CEASE-FIRE LINE." WITNESSES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON REPORTED DOZENS OF ISRAELI AND SYRIAN JETS WERE BATTLING IN THE AIR.

A PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA SPOKESMAN IN BEIRUT SAID GUERRILLAS JOINED SYRIAN TROOPS IN THIS FRONT.

TEL AVIV: AIR RAID SIRENS WAILED AT 2 P.M., IN THE MIDDLE OF THE YOM KIPPUR HIGH HOLY DAY, AND ISRAELIS SCRAMBLED FOR SHELTERS. THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN RADIO CAME ON THE AIR--THEY NORMALLY ARE SHUT DOWN FOR YOM KIPPUR--AND ORDERED CIVILIANS TO GO TO SHELTERS WHEN ALERTS SOUNDED AND TO STAY THERE UNTIL THE ALL-CLEAR IS SOUNDED. NO FIGHTING OR ATTACKS WERE REPORTED IN EITHER TEL AVIV OR JERUSALEM, BUT THE TEL AVIV AIRPORT WAS CLOSED.

CAIRO: PRESIDENT ANWAR EL SADAT WAS REPORTED BY RADIO CAIRO TO HAVE GONE TO MILITARY HEADQUARTERS. THE IRAQI NEWS AGENCY SAID THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE'S COUNCIL (PARLIAMENT) WENT INTO EMERGENCY SESSION. THE CITY WAS REPORTED CALM.

DAMASCUS: THE SYRIAN CABINET MET AND DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY. THE STATE RADIO PLAYED MARTIAL MUSIC IN BETWEEN COMMUNIQUE, AS DID RADIO CAIRO.

DIPLOMATS RUSHED TO CONFER AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE FIGHTING. THERE WERE THESE DEVELOPMENTS:

UNITED NATIONS--ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ABBA EBAN MET WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER. AN ISRAELI CONSULATE SPOKESMAN SAID. BOTH MEN WERE IN NEW YORK FOR THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION. NO DETAILS WERE AVAILABLE.

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR JOSEF TEXOAH ASKED SIR LAURENCE MCINTYRE OF AUSTRALIA, PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR OCTOBER, TO CONVENE THE COUNCIL IN EMERGENCY SESSION.

KEY BISCAYNE, FLA.--PRESIDENT NIXON WAS NOTIFIED BY KISSINGER OF THE SITUATION THROUGH AN EARLY MORNING TELEPHONE CALL, THE WHITE HOUSE SAID. NIXON WAS KEEPING ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS.

WASHINGTON--SPOKESMEN FOR THE PENTAGON AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID THEIR REPORTS WERE STILL FRAGMENTARY AND THEY WERE WATCHING DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY. NEITHER DEPARTMENT WAS WILLING TO COMMENT IMMEDIATELY.

TEL AVIV--U.S. AMBASSADOR KENNETH KEATING MET WITH PREMIER GOLDA MEIR ABOUT 40 MINUTES BEFORE FIGHTING BROKE OUT. THE ISRAELI CABINET HELD AN EMERGENCY MEETING.

UPI071

ADD 2 MIDEAST, WASHINGTON

THE UNITED STATES NAVY HAS 48 SHIPS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, THE PENTAGON SAID, INCLUDING TWO AIRCRAFT CARRIERS, THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT AND THE INDEPENDENCE. IT WAS NOT REVEALED WHETHER ANY OF THE VESSELS WERE IN THE AREA EGYPTIAN HAS DENOTED A "WAR ZONE" BUT THE U.S. 6TH FLEET HAS GENERALLY STAYED CLEAR OF EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI WATERS.

THE U.S. ARMY, BY COINCIDENCE, WAS IN THE MIDST OF EXERCISE REFORGER, AIMED AT DEMONSTRATING HOW FAST TROOPS COULD BE MOVED INTO EUROPE FROM THE UNITED STATES.

AN AIRLIFT WHICH ENDED FRIDAY BROUGHT 11,000 TROOPS OF THE 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION TO WEST GERMANY, MAKING A TOTAL OF FIVE U. S. DIVISIONS IN EUROPE.

THE SOVIETS, ACCORDING TO PENTAGON SOURCES, HAD 2,000-3,000 TECHNICIANS STILL IN EGYPT AFTER THE MAJORITY OF THEIR ADVISORS WERE ORDERED OUT BY CAIRO LAST YEAR. THE TECHNICIANS WERE MOSTLY CONCERNED WITH MAINTAINING THE SOPHISTICATED GROUND-TO-AIR MISSILES THE SOVIETS INSTALLED IN EGYPT.

UPI 10-06 01:02 PED

UPI072

(UN-MIDEAST)

UNITED NATIONS (UPI) -- A UNITED NATIONS SPOKESMAN SAID SATURDAY U.N. TRUCE OBSERVERS HAD CONFIRMED THAT EGYPTIAN TROOPS CROSSED THE SUEZ CANAL 1967 CEASE-FIRE LINE AT FIVE POINTS AND THAT SYRIAN TROOPS CROSSED THE GOLAN HEIGHTS TRUCE LINE AT TWO SPOTS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE WAS CONFIRMATION THAT ISRAELI TROOPS HAD CROSSED THE CEASE-FIRE LINES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SECRETARY GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER THREE TIMES, AS WELL AS THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF ISRAEL AND EGYPT AND MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID WALDHEIM "IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION, WHICH APPEARS TO BE VERY SERIOUS."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE U.N. TRUCE OBSERVERS DESCRIBED THE FIGHTING AS "THE HEAVIEST SINCE 1967."

DIPLOMATS SAID THAT ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE BELLIGERENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAD ASKED FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING SO FAR, IT WAS POSSIBLE THE UNITED STATES MIGHT ASK THE COUNCIL TO CONVENE.

A BRITISH SPOKESMAN SAID AMBASSADOR SIR DONALD MAITLAND WAS IN TOUCH WITH WALDHEIM AND SIR LAURENCE MCINTYRE OF AUSTRALIA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR OCTOBER, ABOUT HOW TO PROCEED.

"THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD MEET AND WE EXPECT THAT LATER TODAY," THE BRITISH SPOKESMAN SAID.

ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER ABRA FRAN MET WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, THE ISRAELI CONSULATE SAID.

UPI 10-06 01:07 PED

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SIXTH FLEET

WASHINGTON (AP)-THE COMMANDER OF THE U.S. 6TH FLEET CANCELED SHORE LEAVES TODAY AND ORDERED OFFICERS AND SAILORS BACK TO THEIR WARSHIPS IN MEDITERRANEAN PORTS.

PENTAGON OFFICIALS SAID VICE ADM. DAN MURPHY'S ACTION WAS PRECAUTIONARY AND NO SHIPS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO SEA FROM PORTS INCLUDING ATHENS.

MEANWHILE, OFFICIALS SAID, THERE HAVE BEEN NO ORDERS TO SIXTH FLEET SHIPS ALREADY AT SEA TO CHANGE THEIR POSITIONS BECAUSE OF THE NEW ARAB-ISRAELI FIGHTING. THESE OFFICIALS CHARACTERIZED 6TH FLEET OPERATIONS AS NORMAL.

THE U.S. SUPERCARRIER INDEPENDENCE WAS REPORTED IN THE ATHENS AREA AND THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, THE 6TH FLEET'S OTHER BIG CARRIER, REPORTED IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

AG434PED OCT. 6

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Our major interest and effort of course in those early hours was to do what . could be done to prevent any outbreak of fighting. Regrettably, that did not turn out to be the case, and I must say, going back over the conversations that the Secretary has had here in New York with the Prime Ministers in the last several days, we

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never had any indication from any of the Ministers that there was a military action intended by any of the governments. Indeed, the entire emphasis, as I am sure those of you who have followed our activities here, the entire emphasis in the Middle East was one of peaceful intention, one that emphasized the desire certainly shared by us that we hoped that diplomacy would become a little more active in that area and that negotiations for a peaceful settlement might be undertaken. Coming back to this morning, the Secretary, not necessarily in the following order, has been in contact with the Foreign Ministers of Egypt and Israel, the Secretary General of the UN, the President of the Security Council, who this month is the Permanent Representative of Australia, Ambassador Dobrynin of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, and messages were sent by the Secretary to King Faisal and King Hussein in their respective capitals. All of the diplomatic steps that the Secretary has undertaken were at the direction of the President and in turn the Secretary has kept the President informed of the substance of the conversations. All of this has been by telephone. The Secretary has had no direct person-to-person meetings with people whose names I have so far mentioned.

Anticipating a question on the Security Council and the likelihood of a meeting, as of the time I came down here, there was no decision by anyone that we are aware of requesting a meeting of the Security Council. Obviously, that in the present circumstances cannot be ruled out, and, in summary, our present estimate is a rather obvious one that there is serious fighting under way in the Middle East.

Perhaps some of the reports may even be ahead of our own information but that seems eminently clear. Now I will be glad to answer a few brief questions because we are hoping to return to Washington very soon.

Q- (Tape didn't pick up)

A- The Secretary made an effort to reach the Syrian Foreign Minister, and as of the time I came down here he had not succeeded.

Q- Are there any indications any New Yorkers may be trapped in the middle of this?

A- One would have to say that this is a possibility, given the number of Americans from everywhere who this time of year are in the area. Whether in fact they would be where the actual fighting is occurring I think would be terribly hard to say.

Q- (Tape didn't pick up)

A- I wouldn't want to draw any conclusions one way or the other. I tried to outline the chronology of events as we ourselves have reviewed them without making any judgment.

Q- Is the State Department's view that the Arabs initiated the attack?

A- I said that the principal effort throughout the morning was to ascertain the facts, to try to construct the most sensible diplomatic means to bring about a cessation of the fighting, and in light of that effort, which has not been completed, I don't want to draw any judgments.

Q- (Couldn't hear any questions)

A- I just couldn't get into that kind of detail right now. I think that is going to have to wait our return to Washington.

Q- Could you tell us anything about the seriousness of the situation, about how many people are involved?

A- Certainly not with any confidence. There is fighting along both Egyptian and Syrian borders. Our present information indicates

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that it involves both air and land weapons at least. We saw a report earlier in the morning that we do not have any confirmation of that the Israelis have taken action in the Gulf of Suez, but I would have to emphasize here, as we of now we do not have the best communications arrangements that we would like to have in a situation like this, and this is more reason for going back to Washington.

Q. (Question couldn't be heard on tape).

A. No, I don't know the answer to that. I would speculate in that direction.

Q. What will the Secretary be doing when he gets back to Washington?

A. Well, there was to have been -- or whether they have gotten together yet in Washington -- A WSAG meeting and for those of you in New York not familiar with this acronym -- it is an acronym for Washington Special Action Group. It is an inter-departmental group of senior officials who meet in the White House in times of emergencies where U.S. interests are affected. So one thing could be to ascertain how far that group has gotten with its meeting.

Q. (Couldn't hear question)

A. Our appeal, yes, indeed, in each of these communications, it has been to urge restraint, to avoid the undermining -- the violation -- of the permanence of the ceasefire that has been in effect since 1970; to avoid any escalation and any continuation of the fighting. That has been the substance of our contact.

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Q. Do you have any information or indication how these hostilities were initiated?

A. No, we have not sufficient information to make a judgment in that regard as of now.

Q. When did the President get his call.

A. Around 6:00 A.M.

Q. Was there any positive response from the Foreign Ministers saying we will do what we can, or what was the reply?

A. I'd rather leave their replies and their comments to themselves. They are here available in New York, and leave it to you to get in touch with them.

Q. Would you say this is in any way another 1967 war?

A. I wouldn't, with any confidence, attempt that broad answer. It is quite obviously serious in its degree and we will undertake every effort to see that it is brought to a stop.

Q. When you mentioned build-up of arms did you include Soviet arms to Syria?

A. I don't want to say yes or no that that, because that is a highlight on one aspect of a serious of reports that are much broader in detail than that one point.

Q. Have you been informed of any action in the air.

A. We have had reports that there is action on the ground and in the air along the Egyptian and Syrian borders with Israel.

Q. Have you any reports of a buildup of Israeli _____?

A. To the best of my knowledge, no.

Q. Does the Secretary have any personal meetings scheduled

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A. If that happens I will let you know before we leave, but there was nothing like that scheduled when I came down.

Q. What time are you going to leave?

A. I guess it will be around one o'clock.

Thank you Bob.

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